

# Council happenings . . .

with Mayor  
Glenn Wall

## Retirement of Ms Lisa Schiff

Prior to Christmas the General Manager advised the Council that Manager Planning, Ms. Lisa Schiff had offered her resignation and would be leaving her employment on the 15 January. Lisa has made a significant contribution to Council and the Community during her period of service. Having to work with severe budgetary constraints to deliver a new Local Environmental Plan and engage in extensive community consultation throughout the process, she continued to provide the Council with a professional level of Service.

Despite the continual frustrations brought about by NSW Planning change in policy direction in recent years, Lisa endeavoured to achieve an outcome for Council and the Community. During her years of service, Lisa has worked closely with Councillors to support us in expanding our knowledge in relation to Town Planning issues so that we are more confident in dealing with members of the Community who make representations to us.

I personally have enjoyed working with Lisa and will certainly miss her in her Council capacity, as I am sure will all those who have had the opportunity to be associated with her at Council. Councillors and Staff wish Lisa and her family, all the very best for the future.

## The Good Sports Program

The Good Sports program is a national initiative of the Australian Drug Foundation (ADF) operating in partnership with Hunter New England Population Health and the 'Good for kids - Good for Life' project to develop safer and healthier communities.

Good Sports is a free program and was designed to help community sports clubs change their culture to become more focused on young people and families by providing leadership and support to build viable and friendly environments in which, alcohol is managed responsibly, healthy eating is promoted, physical participation is encouraged and on-site smoking restricted as required by law.

The Australian Drug Foundation's (ADF) Good Sports program has been identified as a community initiative to develop local sports club's capacity to build and foster safe, healthy and family friendly environments. Good Sports was a key recommendation of the 2003 NSW Alcohol Summit and its development in NSW is supported by the NSW Premier's Department, NSW Sport & Recreation, NSW Police, NSW Health, RTA and the Office for Liquor, Gaming & Racing.

The desired outcomes by being involved with the program will be to reduce unlicensed alcohol sales in Dungog Shire LGA, model and promote responsible use of alcohol in Dungog Shire LGA and increase playing and non-playing participation in community sport in Dungog Shire . The program should also decrease the trend of drink driving from community sporting events, decrease the trend of alcohol related anti-social behaviour from community sport clubs and increase community sport club participation in community initiatives such as alcohol management, safe transport and health related policies.

As part of the new policy direction that Council auspice the Dungog Shire Liquor Accord in response to offering assistance to the NSW Police after the recent spate of vandalism and Anti – Social Behaviour, issues raised by licensees in attendance at the initial meeting to consider the establishment of a liquor accord was the matter of alcohol sales at local events, where the secondary supply of alcohol to minors is an issue as is evidenced from complaints received from members of the public.

Council has resolved to undertake a Community Partnership relationship with the "Good Sports Program" for three years committing \$2000 / annum to the program. Councillors and Staff will be given a presentation by the Project Manager, Mr. Mark Glanville in due course.

16 January 2008